



03500.018031

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Takako YAMAGUCHI et al.) : Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/779,786) : Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: February 18, 2004) :
For: PHOTOMASK FOR NEAR-FIELD) :
EXPOSURE, NEAR-FIELD EXPOSURE) :
METHOD, AND NEAR-FIELD EXPOSURE) :
APPARATUS) :
March 11, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. A copy of the Japanese patent document is also enclosed.

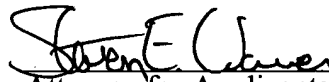
Japanese patent document number 11-145051 and U.S. Patent No. 6,171,730 are discussed on page 2 of the specification. Japanese patent document number 11-145051 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,171,730.

Applicants request that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2) is believed due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steven E. Warner", is written over a horizontal line.

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.018031		APPLICATION NO. 10/779,786	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		APPLICANT Takako YAMAGUCHI et al.			
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE February 18, 2004		GROUP Unassigned	
March 11, 2004					
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS SUBCLASS FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		US-6,632,593 B2	10/14/2003	Yamaguchi et al.	430 322
		US-6,559,926 B2	05/06/2003	Yamaguchi et al.	355 53
		US-6,187,482	02/13/2001	Kuroda et al.	430 5
		US-6,628,392 B2	09/30/2003	Kuroda et al.	356 400
		US-6,171,730 B1	01/09/2001	Kuroda et al.	430 5
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS SUBCLASS TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		11-145051	05/28/1999	Japan	Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)					
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.